

recognize the frankness and sincerity with which he declares it." In regard to amputations, declared the Ambassador in a private letter to Jules Ferry, a nation should neither forgive nor forget unless it wished to share the fate of Poland. More-over, *Vamitie de i'AHemagm est we amltii orageuse*.

Though Baron de Courcel had no intention of walking into Bismarck's parlour, some of his countrymen seemed prepared for the great surrender. " You cannot think how much good our rapprochement has done," observed Barrere, the French Minister in Cairo, to Herbert Bismarck. " I cannot say there is no longer enmity, for that needs time, but there is no longer mistrust among us. It will still be a fairly long time till 1870 becomes merely a memory, but only patience is needed for that. The rapprochement is not only the best thing for the two countries but for the world. We must think of future generations and remember that the strongest alliance would be France and Germany." In the same month of September, 1884, General Camponon, Minister of War, entertained the foreign officers at the manoeuvres at dinner, and observed to the chief of the German mission that the Government desired a rapprochement. "A Franco-German alliance," replied his guest, " is only possible if you recognize the Treaty of Frankfurt." " That is what I am always telling my colleagues," replied Camponon. "We should no longer weakly occupy ourselves with the past, but should reckon with the present. With such an alliance France would at one blow regain her standing. France and Germany united would rule the world." A fortnight later Herbert Bismarck visited Ferry, who charged him to tell the Chancellor that he would not take the smallest step in Egypt without consulting the Wilhelmstrasse. " We are on the high road," remarked the Director of

the Finance  
Ministry to Herbert Bismarck; " first the *detente*  
and then the  
*entente*"

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That Bismarck was satisfied with the German  
frontiers  
established by his three wars is beyond doubt. "  
I know I am  
accused of wishing to sow dissension between  
France and  
England or between England and Russia," he  
remarked to the  
French Ambassador on May 10,- 1885. " But  
what have I to  
gain from such dissensions ? Germany's position  
is now strong  
enough, and she is entirely content with her  
relations to her